

**Idaho Fish and Game Commission
Special Meeting – March 11, 2021
Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Legislative Conference Call
Nampa, Idaho**

A meeting of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission was held by telephone conference, attended by Commissioners Brad Corkill, Don Ebert, Greg Cameron, Lane Clezie, Derick Attebury and Ron Davies. Commissioner Murphy was excused.

IDFG staff present: Director Schriever, Deputy Directors Paul Kline and Scott Reinecker; Kathleen Trever, Deputy Attorney General; Mary Boyer, Michael Pearson and Frank Edelmann. IDFG staff participating via phone, Kim Rau, Greg Wooten, Chip Corsi, J.J. Teare, Jon Rachael, Dan Garren, Roger Phillips, Toby Boudreau and Ryan Walrath.

Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. MST

LEGISLATION

Paul Kline, Deputy Director presented the updates on legislation.

Update on Fish and Game Legislative Presentations (JFAC, Bills, other) and Budget

The Department's budget bill (HB 313) is in line waiting for the House floor vote. Representative Troy from Genesee is the House floor sponsor.

New Bill Analysis for Discussion/Update on Pending Legislation / Action for Policy Position

Deputy Director Kline reviewed the House and Senate bill tracking tables (Appendix 54, Exhibit 16).

HB 286, referred to as the Shooting ranges fines bill, provides technical corrections to two sections of statute resulting from last session's HB 396. The Commission supported HB 396 last year. This was the bill that established the Citizens Shooting Range Committee as well as the shooting range fund. The new bill, HB286, clarifies that the portion of fines and forfeitures proceeds that used to be deposited in the Department's general account will now be directed to the new shooting range fund established by HB396 last year.

21-15 Commissioner Cameron moved and Commissioner Ebert seconded a motion that the Commission position is to support HB 286. Motion carries.

Adoption of Temporary Rule for replacing Turkey Controlled Hunt Permit with Controlled Hunt Tag

Agenda item 3 is an action item to consider adopting a temporary rule to avoid an inconsistency related to the current requirement that successful turkey tag controlled hunt applicants purchase a tag and permit to hunt turkey. Last year the Commission acted to simplify the turkey tag framework. Simplification includes reducing the types of tags available to just general and controlled and eliminating the need to also possess a permit for controlled hunts. House and Senate Committees favorably reviewed this rulemaking and final rules are expected to take effect sine die. However, the Department's schedule for releasing spring turkey controlled hunt results occurs prior to sine die. This temporary rulemaking would clarify that successful controlled hunt applicants would not need to purchase a controlled hunt permit in addition to a tag before the final rule takes effect sine die.

21-16 Commissioner Attebury moved and Commissioner Clezie seconded a motion that the Commission adopt the temporary rule that provides for consistency of requirements for spring turkey controlled hunts for 2021 as presented by staff. Motion carries.

Amendment of Discount Order for "Special Unit" Turkey Tags Pricing

The Commission's discount order currently in place (Order 19-44) orders the discount of fees for wild turkey applicable to special unit tags (\$5 including the vendor issuance fee) and Extra turkey tags (\$12.25 inclusive of the vendor issuance fee). Under the current order, up to three Special Unit Tags are available for use by residents and nonresidents in fall general seasons and for use in designated depredation hunts in Units 1, 2, 3, and 5, and up to two Extra tags may be used by residents in general seasons and controlled hunts after the purchase of a general tag each year. Additionally, the Commission's Proclamation for 2020-2021 turkey seasons identifies that Special Unit Tags may also be used in additional units (4, 4A, 6, 7, and 9) not identified in Discount Order 19-44.

The Wildlife Bureau Chief recommends continuing a discount for resident and nonresident multiple tag purchases (Extra Tags) and Special Unit turkey tags. Staff recommends adoption of a new discount order (Appendix 54, Exhibit 17) to amend and supersede Order 19-44. The new discount order will address the discrepancy in unit designations where Special Unit Tags may be used as well as pending rule changes expected to go into effect sine die.

21-17 Commissioner Ebert moved and Commissioner Clezie seconded a motion to move, based on the authority of Idaho Code Section 36-415 and based on a finding of biological and public need to encourage participation in the hunting of wild turkeys, the Idaho Fish and Game Commission hereby ORDERS the discount of resident and nonresident general tag fees for wild turkey to \$5.00, inclusive of vendor issuance fee, with tag use limited to the following locations and times (which discounted tags may be referred to as "Special Unit Tags"): Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 4A, 5, 6, 7 and 9, for use during fall general seasons, and in any designated depredation hunt during the calendar year.

The Commission further ORDERS the continuation of the discount to \$12.25, inclusive of vendor issuance fee, of resident fees for wild turkey, applicable to tags that may be referred to as "Extra Tags" (defined as the second or subsequent tag purchased in a calendar year following the first full-price general or controlled hunt tag purchase). Motion carries.

Adjourn



Brad Corkill
Chairman



Ed Schriever
Secretary

